

ELA.03.SR.01.08.016

Sample Item ID:	ELA.03.SR.01.08.016
Grade/Model:	03/1
Claim:	1: Students can read closely and analytically to comprehend a range of increasingly complex literary and informational texts.
Assessment Target:	8: Key Details: Use explicit details and implicit information from the text to support answers or inferences about information presented.
Secondary Targets:	n/a
Standard(s):	RI-1, RI-3
DOK:	2
Difficulty:	M
Item Type:	Selected Response
Score Points:	1
Key:	B
Stimulus/Passage(s):	"Project Mercury"
Stimuli/Text Complexity:	Word Count: 200 Flesch-Kincaid: 5.0 Lexile: 580L, grade 2-3 Qualitative: n/a
Acknowledgement(s):	Source: http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/k-4/stories/what-was-project-mercury-k4.html Excerpts from the sections "What Was Project Mercury?" and "How Did NASA Make Sure Mercury Was Safe?" Author: NASA Publication Date: unknown
Item/Task Notes:	
How this task contributes to the sufficient evidence for this claim:	To successfully complete the item, students must identify explicit information in the informational text to support a given inference about it.
Target-Specific Attributes (e.g., accessibility issues):	Adapted presentation of stimulus text is needed for students with visual impairment.

*Stimulus Text:***Project Mercury**

Project Mercury was a NASA program. It launched the first Americans into space. Astronauts made six flights during the Mercury project. Two of those went to space and came right back down. Four of them went into orbit and circled Earth.

NASA chose seven astronauts for Project Mercury in 1959. It was one of the first things NASA did. NASA was only six months old.

Before astronauts flew, NASA had test flights. People were

not on these launches. The flights let NASA find and fix problems. The first Atlas rocket that launched with a Mercury capsule exploded. The first Mercury-Redstone launch only went about four inches off the ground. NASA learned from these problems. NASA learned how to fix them. NASA made the rockets safer. Three other "astronauts" also helped make Mercury safer. A rhesus monkey, Sam, and two chimpanzees, Ham and Enos, flew in Mercury capsules. Enos even made two orbits around Earth.

NASA learned a lot from Project Mercury. NASA learned how to put people in orbit. It learned how people could live and work in space. NASA learned how to fly a spacecraft. These lessons were very important. NASA used them in later space projects.

Item Stem:

Which sentence from the text shows that NASA made sure Mercury was safe for humans?

Options:

- A. "Astronauts made six flights during the Mercury project."
- B. "NASA chose seven astronauts for Project Mercury in 1959."
- C. "Before astronauts flew, NASA had test flights."
- D. "NASA learned a lot from Project Mercury."

Distractor Analysis:

- A. INCORRECT: This option is a sentence from the text about the number of missions, not about safety precautions.
- B. INCORRECT: This option is a sentence from the passage about the number of astronauts, not about safety precautions.
- C. CORRECT: This is the sentence in the text that shows that NASA made sure Mercury was safe for humans before they flew.
- D. INCORRECT: This option is a sentence from the text about the value of the missions,

not about safety precautions.